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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 RAJENDRA MEHTA

11 Plaintiff(s),

12 v.

13 OUT OF THE BOX ENTERPRISES,
14 LLC

15 Defendant(s).
16
17

CASE NO:

5:16-cv-00107-VAP-DTB

STANDING ORDER

18 **READ THIS ORDER CAREFULLY. IT CONTROLS THIS CASE**
19 **AND DIFFERS IN SOME RESPECTS FROM THE LOCAL RULES.**
20

21 This action has been assigned to the calendar of Judge Virginia A. Phillips.

22 The responsibility for the progress of litigation in the Federal Courts falls not
23 only upon the attorneys in the action, but upon the Court as well. To secure the
24 just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action, (Fed. R. Civ. P. 1),
25 all counsel are hereby ordered to become familiar with the Federal Rules of Civil
26 Procedure and the Local Rules of the Central District of California.

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1 The Court further orders as follows:

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3 **1. Service of the Complaint.** The Plaintiff shall serve the Complaint
4 promptly in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 and Local Rule 5-3 and file the
5 proofs of service pursuant to Local Rule 5-4.
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7 **2. Proposed Orders.** Each party filing or opposing a motion or
8 seeking the determination of any matter shall serve and file a proposed order which
9 sets forth the relief or action sought.
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11 **3. Presence of Lead Counsel.** All lead trial counsel must attend, in
12 person, any scheduling and pretrial conferences set by the Court. Failure of lead
13 trial counsel to appear for those proceedings is a basis for sanctions.
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15 **4. Motions.** Motions shall be filed and set for hearing in accordance
16 with Local Rule 6-1. Motions will be heard on Mondays commencing at 2:00 p.m.
17 If Monday is a national holiday, this Court does not hear motions on the succeeding
18 Tuesday. Any motion noticed for a holiday shall automatically be set to the next
19 Monday without further notice to the parties. Any opposition or reply papers due on
20 a holiday are due the preceding Friday, not the following Tuesday. Memoranda of
21 Points and Authorities in support of or in opposition to motions shall not exceed 25
22 pages. Replies shall not exceed 12 pages. Only in rare instances, and for good cause
23 shown, will the Court agree to extend these page limitations. When citing to legal
24 databases, counsel should cite to Westlaw rather than Lexis. If Lexis, or some other
25 legal database, is the only database that contains a cited opinion, counsel citing to
26 that opinion must submit a copy of it (or the relevant portions if lengthy) along
27 with the motion or opposition.

28 Unless clearly justified under the circumstances of the case, "motions to

dismiss or in the alternative for summary adjudication" are discouraged. These composite motions tend to blur the legitimate distinction[s] between the two motions, which have different purposes. Frequently, the composite motions introduce evidence that is extrinsic to the pleadings. On the one hand, such evidence is improper for consideration in a Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6) motion, while on the other hand, treatment of the motion as a Rule 56 motion frequently results in reasonable invocation of Rule 56(f) by the non-moving party.

Moreover, Rule 12(b)(6) motions are discouraged unless counsel has a good faith belief that such motion will likely result in dismissal, without leave to amend, of all or at least some of the claims under applicable law.

Motions for Summary Judgment or Partial Summary Judgment: No party may file more than one motion pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 56 regardless of whether such motion is denominated as a motion for summary judgment or summary adjudication. Parties offering evidence in support of, or in opposition to, a Rule 56 motion must cite to specific page and line numbers in depositions and paragraph numbers in affidavits. Furthermore, such evidence must be authenticated properly. The Court directs the parties to become familiar with *Orr v. Bank of America, NT & SA*, 285 F.3d 764 (9th Cir. 2002). The moving party's brief shall also be accompanied by a statement of undisputed facts ("SUF").

The SUF shall be presented in a table format and include the following columns:

- a. The first column shall contain the number of the fact alleged to be undisputed. Only facts should be listed, not legal arguments.
- b. The second column shall contain a plain statement of the fact.

Facts shall not be compound. If, for instance, the required response is that the fact is disputed in part, the fact is compound. Further, neither legal arguments nor conclusions constitute facts.

c. The third column shall contain a citation to admissible evidence the party believes supports the proffered fact.

For example:

Pl.'s SUF No.	Fact	Supporting Evidence
1.	Plaintiff was driving her car when she went through the intersection.	Decl. of Plaintiff ¶ 2.
2.	The light was green when Plaintiff went through the intersection.	Decl. of Plaintiff ¶ 4.
3.	Plaintiff was driving at 35 miles per hour when she traveled through the intersection.	Decl. of Plaintiff ¶ 7; Decl. of Plaintiff's Expert ¶ 14.
.

The party opposing the summary judgment motion shall include with its opposition a statement of genuine issues that includes the moving party's table; but the opposing party shall add a fourth column to the moving table identifying those facts that are in dispute, briefly explaining the dispute, and citing the evidence supporting the dispute. The opposing party shall not set forth legal objections in the statement of genuine issues.

For example:

Pl.'s SUF No.	Fact	Supporting Evidence	Def.'s Response
1.	Plaintiff was driving her car when she went through the intersection.	Decl. of Plaintiff ¶ 2.	Undisputed
2.	The light was green when Plaintiff went through the intersection.	Decl. of Plaintiff ¶ 4.	Disputed. The light was red when Plaintiff traveled through the intersection. (Decl. of Defendant ¶ 6.)
3.	Plaintiff was driving at 35 miles per hour when she traveled through the intersection.	Decl. of Plaintiff ¶ 7; Decl. of Plaintiff's Expert ¶ 14.	Disputed. Plaintiff was driving 52 miles per hour when she went through the intersection. (Decl. of Defendant's Expert ¶ 9.)
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If a party fails to dispute a fact properly by offering evidence that does not contradict the proffered fact, the Court will deem the fact undisputed for purposes of the motion. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(e)(2), L.R. 56-3.

If the party opposing the summary judgment motion wishes to include its own set of undisputed facts, it may include them in a second table at the end of its statement of genuine issues. The opposing party's undisputed facts shall be set forth in the same manner as the moving party's SUF.

For example:

Def.'s SUF No.	Fact	Supporting Evidence
1.	The tires on Plaintiff's car had only 1 millimeter of tread remaining at the time of the accident.	Decl. of Mechanic ¶ 5.
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If either party fails to provide a pincite to the supporting evidence, the Court will deem the proffered fact (or dispute) unsupported. *See generally Christian Legal Soc. v. Wu*, 626 F.3d 483, 488 (9th Cir. 2010) ("Judges are not like pigs, hunting for truffles buried in briefs." (quoting *Greenwood v. FAA*, 28 F.3d 971, 977 (9th Cir. 1994) (quoting *United States v. Dunkel*, 927 F.2d 955, 956 (7th Cir. 1991) (per curiam)) (alteration omitted)))).

Additionally, parties shall file any legal objections to the other party's proffered evidence under separate cover.

5. Withdrawal or Non-Opposition of Motions: In the event that the parties are able to resolve a pending motion, *they must notify the Court approximately one week before the hearing date.* Sanctions may issue for failure to comply with this requirement, or the broader requirement in Local

Rule 7-16 that any party who intends either to withdraw a motion, to not oppose a motion, or to seek a continuance of the hearing date for a motion, **must notify the court by noon on the Tuesday preceding the hearing date.**

6. Electronic filing. As of January 1, 2008, the United States District Court for the Central District of California implemented mandatory electronic filing ("e-filing") of documents in all new and pending civil cases. Information about the Court's Electronic Case Filing system, is available on the Court's website at www.cacd.uscourts.gov/cmecf.

The "e-filing" of all documents required to be "e-filed" in this matter pursuant to General Order No. 10-07 and Local Rule 5-4 shall be completed by **4:00 p.m. on the date due**. Any documents "e-filed" after 4:00 p.m. on the date due will be considered **untimely**. Any documents that fail to comply with Local Rule 5-4, and particularly Local Rule 5-4.3.1 may be rejected.

7. Mandatory chambers copies. The Court requires **ONE mandatory chambers copy of ONLY the following filed documents:**

- a. Motions and related documents;**
- b. Ex parte applications and related documents;**

Such chambers copies shall be delivered to the "Courtesy Box," located outside of Room 181 - Roybal Clerk's Office at the Roybal Federal Building and United States Courthouse, 255 East Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day following "e-filing." All chambers copies shall comply fully with the document formatting requirements of Local Rules 5-4, 11-3, and 11-4 including the "pre-punching," "backing," and "tabbing" requirements of Local Rules 11-3.5, 11-4.1, and 11-5.3, respectively. If the filing party and their counsel fail to deliver a mandatory chambers copy in full compliance with this

1 Order and Local Rule 11-3, the Court may, on its own motion, reschedule any
2 related hearing, as well as imposing sanctions.

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4 **8. Discovery.** All discovery matters have been referred to a United
5 States Magistrate Judge (see initial designation following the case number) to hear
6 all discovery disputes. The words "DISCOVERY MATTER" shall appear in the
7 caption of all documents relating to discovery to insure proper routing. Counsel are
8 directed to contact the Magistrate Judge Courtroom Deputy Clerk for the assigned
9 Magistrate Judge to schedule matters for hearing.

10 The decision of the Magistrate Judge shall be final, subject to modification by
11 the District Court only where it has been shown that the Magistrate Judge's order is
12 clearly erroneous or contrary to law.

13 Any party may file and serve a motion for review and reconsideration before
14 this court. The party seeking review must do so within ten (10) days of service upon
15 the party of a written ruling or within ten (10) days of an oral ruling that the
16 Magistrate Judge states will not be followed by a written ruling. The motion must
17 specify which portions of the text are clearly erroneous or contrary to law and the
18 claim must be supported by points and authorities. A copy of the moving papers
19 and responses shall be delivered to the Magistrate Judge's clerk for review upon
20 the filing of the required documents.

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22 **9. Ex Parte Applications.** *Ex parte* applications are considered on the
23 papers and are not usually set for hearing. Counsel are advised that this Court
24 allows *ex parte* applications solely for extraordinary relief -- sanctions may be
25 imposed for misuse of *ex parte* applications. *See In re Intermagnetics Am., Inc.*,
26 101 B.R. 191 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. 1989). Counsel also should become familiar with
27 *Mission Power Engineering Co. v. Continental Casualty Co.*, 883 F. Supp. 488
28 (C.D. Cal. 1995), regarding *ex parte* applications.

Counsel's attention is directed to Local Rule 7-19. The moving party shall serve the opposing party by facsimile transmission and shall notify the opposition that opposing papers must be filed not later than twenty-four hours following such facsimile service. The moving party's declaration in support of an *ex parte* application shall show compliance with Local Rule 7-19 and this Order, failing to follow the Local Rules and this Order will result in the application being DENIED. If counsel does not intend to oppose an *ex parte* application, they must so inform the Courtroom Deputy Clerk, (213) 894-3480. As with all motion papers, counsel must deliver a conformed courtesy copy of the papers to the "Courtesy Box," located outside of Room 181 - Roybal Clerk's Office at the Roybal Federal Building and United States Courthouse, 255 East Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. Counsel will be notified by the Courtroom Deputy Clerk of the Court's ruling or of a hearing time and date should the Court determine that a hearing is necessary.

10. Class Actions. Notwithstanding Local Rule 23-3, the deadline for the filing of a motion for class certification will be set during the Scheduling Conference and/or in a Scheduling Order. **NO REQUEST FOR RELIEF FROM LOCAL RULE 23-3 IS NECESSARY.**

11. Stipulations. Stipulations extending scheduling dates set by this Court are not effective unless approved by the Court. Counsel requesting a continuance must submit a stipulation, with a detailed declaration of the basis for the requested continuance or extension of time, and a proposed order. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause, focusing on the diligence of the party seeking the continuance and any prejudice that may result if the continuance is denied. Any continuances that are requested without an accompanying declaration will be rejected without notice to the parties. The Court sets **firm** trial dates and will not change them without a showing of good cause.

12. Applications to File Under Seal. Parties are reminded that court proceedings are presumptively public, and no document shall be filed under seal without request for a court order that is narrowly tailored to cover only the document, the particular portion of the document, or category of documents for which good cause exists for filing under seal. To that end, all documents to be filed under seal and all Applications for Leave to File Under Seal must be filed electronically using the Court's CM/ECF System, unless otherwise indicated by L.R. 79-5 or exempted from electronic filing pursuant to L.R. 5-4.2.

If the sole ground for the sealing order is that the opposing party (or non-party) has designated the document as confidential, the opposing party (or non-party) shall file a declaration establishing good cause for the sealing along with a proposed order, or shall withdraw the designation. The declaration shall be filed within five days of service on the opposing party (or non-party) of the request for a sealing order. If the declaration is not filed as required, the Court may order that the document be filed in the public record.

Use of Sealed Documents in Motion Papers: The Court cautions parties that documents designated as confidential that are attached as exhibits to case-dispositive motions, or redacted portions of case-dispositive briefs that contain confidential information, must meet the high "compelling reasons" threshold. *See Kamakana v. City of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172 (9th Cir. 2006). A good cause showing, without more, will not satisfy a compelling reasons test, but will only suffice to maintain the confidentiality of documents attached to *non-dispositive* motions. Documents designated as confidential in conjunction with case-dispositive motions or briefs that do not satisfy the compelling reasons test may accordingly be re-designated as public information upon proper request. *See Foltz v. State Farm Mut. Auto. Ins. Co.*, 331 F.3d 1122 (9th Cir. 2003).

Use of Sealed or Confidential Documents at Trial: Notwithstanding any provision of a protective order to the contrary, any document, whether previously

1 designated confidential or previously sealed, will be unsealed and will lose its
2 confidential status if offered as an exhibit at trial, absent a showing of the "most
3 compelling" reasons. *See Manual for Complex Litigation* § 21.432; *Foltz*, 331
4 F.3d at 1135-36. Any party believing that a document, portions thereof, or
5 witness testimony should remain confidential or sealed during trial must request
6 in advance of trial that the court take extraordinary measures, such as closing
7 the courtroom to the public or sealing the trial transcript, to protect the
8 confidentiality of that information. The request must be made in writing and
9 filed no later than the date on which pretrial papers are due.

10 If previously sealed documents are ordered unsealed for use at trial, counsel
11 for the party offering the document as evidence shall, within two business days of
12 the conclusion of the trial, identify which entries on the docket represent the
13 exhibits actually received. Counsel are required to cooperate with the deputy clerk
14 in order to complete the unsealing process in cases involving voluminous sealed
15 documents.

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17 **13. Removed Actions.** Any answers filed in state court must be
18 re-filed in this Court (separately) as a supplement to the petition. Any pending
19 motions must be re-noticed in accordance with Local Rule 6-1.

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21 **14. Communications with Chambers.** Counsel shall not attempt
22 to contact the Court or its Chambers staff by telephone or by any other *ex parte*
23 means. Counsel must list their facsimile transmission numbers along with their
24 telephone numbers on their papers.

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26 **15. Notice of this Order.** Counsel for plaintiff, or plaintiff, if
27 appearing on his or her own behalf, shall immediately serve this Order on all
28 parties, including any new parties to the action. If this case came to the Court

1 by noticed removal, the removing defendant shall serve this Order on all other
2 parties.
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4 **16. Internet Site.** Counsel are directed to review the Central
5 District's website for additional information. The address is
6 "http://www.cacd.uscourts.gov."
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8 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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10 DATED: March 15, 2016

Virginia A. Phillips

11 _____
12 Virginia A. Phillips
13 United States District Judge
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